

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEAE-00 SS-15 SSO-00 SY-05 PRS-01 PM-04

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O R 161450Z DEC 75 ZFF-4

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 3132

AMEMBASSY SANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L JIDDA 8290

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (ATHERTON, ALFRED L.)

SUBJECT: VISIT OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY ATHERTON

REF: SECTO 24072

1. ROYAL PROTOCOL HAS INFORMED US THAT, THOUGH A CALL ON KING KHALID WILL NOT BE POSSIBLE, APPOINTMENTS HAVE BEEN SET UP WITH CROWN PRINCE FAHD AND MINDEF PRINCE SULTAN FOR DECEMBER 20, TENTATIVELY AT 10:00 A.M. AND 12 NOON RESPECTIVELY. FONMIN PRINCE SAUD MAY NOT BE BACK IN COUNTRY BY THE TIME OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY'S VISIT.

2. FOLLOWING IS PRELIMINARY SCHEDULE FOR ATHERTON VISIT (ALL TIMES LOCAL):

DEC 19--1200 ARRIVE JIDDA AIRPORT. MET BY CHARGE, POL/MIL OFFICER JESSE LEWIS (CONTROL OFFICER), AND FONMIN CHIEF OF PROTOCOL AMBASSADOR SALIM SUNBOL (MR. ATHERTON HAS MET AMB. SUNBOL MANY TIMES).

1230 ARRIVE AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE. PRIVATE
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LUNCH AND REST TIME.

1400-1700 BRIEFINGS AT AMBASSADOR'S RESIDENCE.
AMONG THOSE PRESENT WOULD BE CHARGE
HORAN, CHIEF USMTM GEN. AHMANN, ECON COUNSELOR DANIELS, POL
CHIEF MURPHY, POL OFFICERS CLOSE AND
LEWIS. AMBASSADOR SCOTES WILL ALSO
ATTEND, AS WILL MR. HOENIG DSAA.

1930 FAMILY SUPPER FOR ASST SECRETARY
ATHERTON AT CHARGE RESIDENCE. MISS
KAMER AND MR. ABINGTON ALSO INVITED.
A FILM ("FRONT PAGE") WILL BE AVAILABLE
FOR SHOWING IF ATHERTON DESIRES. (IF
DESIRED ATHERTON CAN HAVE PRIVATE
SUPPER AT THE RESIDENCE).

DEC 20--0900 MEETING IN AMBASSADOR'S OFFICE WITH MEMBERS OF
EMBASSY STAFF. SHORT REMARKS BY MR. ATHERTON WOULD BE APPRE-
CIATED.

0945 (TENTATIVE) DEPART FOR MEETING WITH CROWN PRINCE
FAHD (MEETING TO TAKE PLACE AT JIDDA
OFFICE OF ROYAL DIWAN ACROSS FROM EMBASSY
COMPOUND.) SUGGESTED ATTENDEES: MR.
ATHERTON, CHARGE HORAN, POL CHIEF
MURPHY.

1200 MEETING WITH MINDEF PRINCE SULTAN AT
JIDDA MINDEF HEADQUARTERS. SUGGESTED
ATTENDEES: MR. ATHERTON, HORAN, CHIEF
USMTM BG AHMANN, MR. HOENIG, POL/MIL
OFFICER LEWIS. (HORAN MAY INTERPRET).

1330 RETURN TO RESIDENCE. PRIVATE LUNCH.
AFTERNOON FREE. NOTE: OFFICE FACILITIES
WILL EXIST AT RESIDENCE IF MR. ATHERTON
WOULD PREFER TO WORK THERE. AMBASSADOR'S
OFFICE ALSO AVAILABLE.

2000 DINNER AT CHARGE RESIDENCE HOSTED BY
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CHARGE AND MRS. HORAN. GUESTS TO
INCLUDE: MR. ATHERTON, AMBASSADOR
SCOTES, MISS KAMER, MR. ABINGTON, MR.
HOENIG, ECON COUNSELOR DANIELS, ADMIN
COUNSELOR AND MRS. SWEDENBURG, POL
CHIEF AND MRS. MURPHY, POL OFFICER
AND MRS. CLOSE, POL/MIL OFFICER LEWIS.

DEC 21--0800 BAGGAGE PICKUP.

0830 DEPART FOR JIDDA AIRPORT.

0900 DEPART JIDDA.

3. WE THINK THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO HAVE CHUSMTM BG AHMANN COME TO JIDDA FROM DHAHRAN TO SIT IN ON IN-HOUSE DISCUSSIONS OF ARMS PROBLEMS AND TO ATTEND THE MEETING WITH PRINCE SULTAN. WE THEREFORE PROPOSE TO HAVE GEN AHMANN COME TO JIDDA. PLEASE ADVISE IF YOU CONCUR.

4. WE WOULD LIKE TO ARRANGE FOR A BRIEF AIRPORT MEETING WITH A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SAUDI NEWS AGENCY ON DEPARTURE. QUESTIONS POSED ON SUCH OCCASIONS HAVE INVARIABLY BEEN EASY TO HANDLE .
THIS WILL PROVIDE AN OPPORTUNITY FOR ANY STATEMENT YOU WISH TO MAKE. PLEASE ADVISE.

5. WE WILL HAVE EMBASSY COMMUNICATIONS (NORMALLY CLOSED ON FRIDAY) OPEN FROM 0800 GMT REPEAT GMT DEC 19.
HORAN

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